

arguments, not because I am sharper than anybody else or wiser than anybody else, but perhaps I read a bit better than other people because I was able to read what the U.S. Supreme Court decisions required and had tried to give the arguments that would cause us to put those provisions in any bill passed by this Legislature. This bill is as much a reflection of a religious point of view as is the Christian school bill. We have argued on that measure that regardless of the origin of certain religious views and no matter how sincerely held, they conflict with an overriding responsibility of the state, therefore, a burden would have to be placed on those particular religious views and as a result the bill that the Christian School operators would want has never been passed by this Legislature, has never gotten off General File. The bill which was advanced the other day in my absence is not satisfactory to those people. And I understand it was quite a bit quieter, more peaceful and friendly, the debates were, in my absence. But those qualities found in debate do not always ensure a proper legislative result as is demonstrated by the type of Christian School bill, so-called, that was advanced. On this proposition discussion is not going to avail those of us who are opposed to the bill, anything. It will merely give us another opportunity to go on record again against a bill which is going to provide a good living for the lawyer who fights these bills in court, invariably wins and is awarded lawyer fees. I don't know what it would take to cause the Legislature to vote properly on one of these bills. I won't go into all of the arguments about it being antiwoman, busybody legislation, an attempt to impose certain religious points of view on others. That falls on deaf ears. But at some future time somebody will refer again to the debates we had on this legislation and they will say, as they shake their head in amazement, I don't know why, in view of the crystal clear arguments given against this legislation, a majority, nevertheless, voted for it. If they can answer as to why that particular type of perverse conduct occurs in the Legislature, they will be able to answer also why lemmings follow each other into the sea, there to be drowned to the last lemming.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The Chair recognizes...Senator